

Eliminating Mid-Spatial Frequency (MSF) Errors with VIBE Finishing

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June 8, 2010

NASA Mirror Technology Days



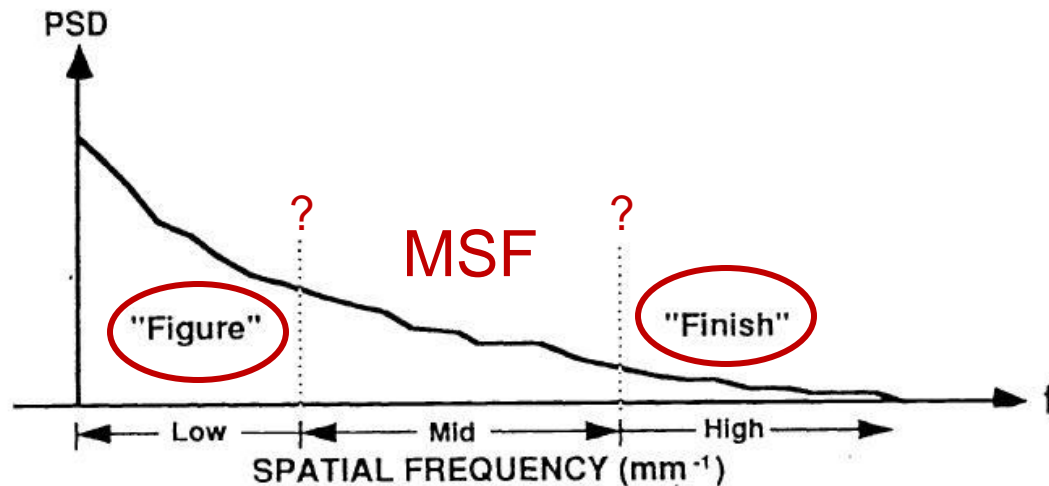
Outline

- Introduction
 - Mid-Spatial Frequency (MSF) Errors
 - VIBE Technology
- Characterization of MSF Errors
- MSF Error Removal with VIBE

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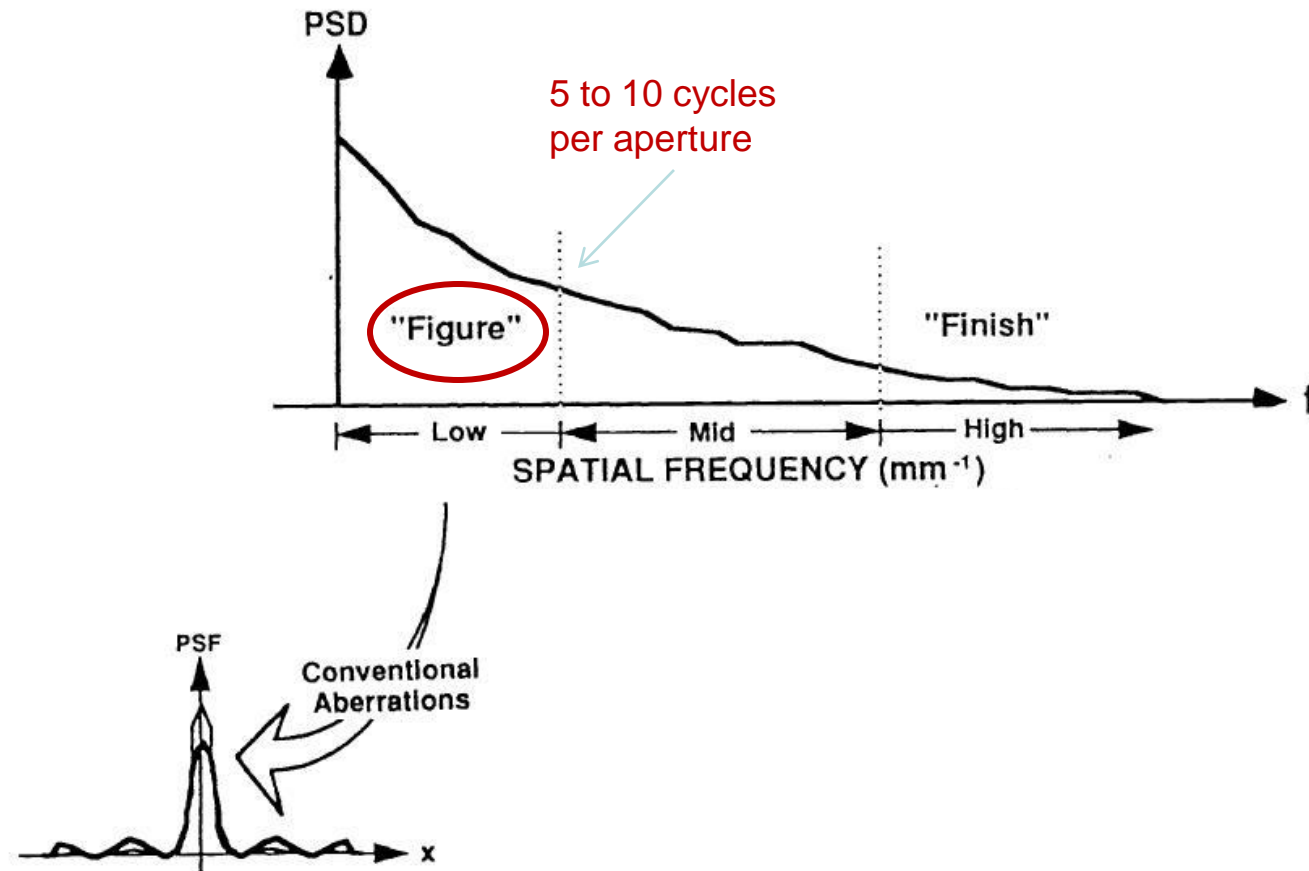
What is “mid-spatial frequency”?



J.E. Harvey and A. Kotha, “Scattering effects from residual optical fabrication errors, Proc. SPIE 2576-25

D. Aikens, J. E. DeGroote, and R. N. Youngworth, "Specification and Control of Mid-Spatial Frequency Wavefront Errors in Optical Systems," (Optical Society of America, 2008).

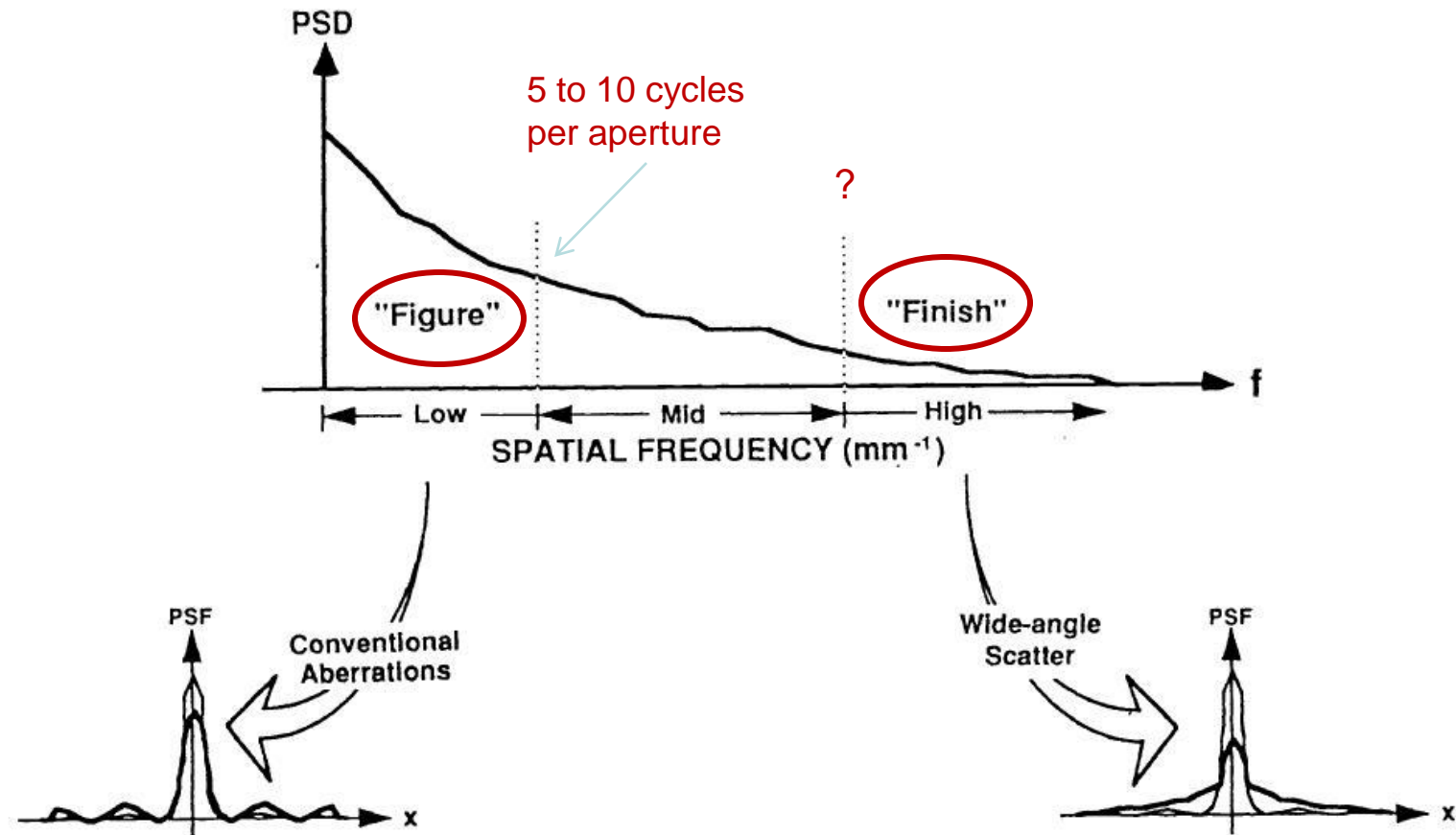
Figure is the range of spatial frequencies addressable with a simple Zernike expansion



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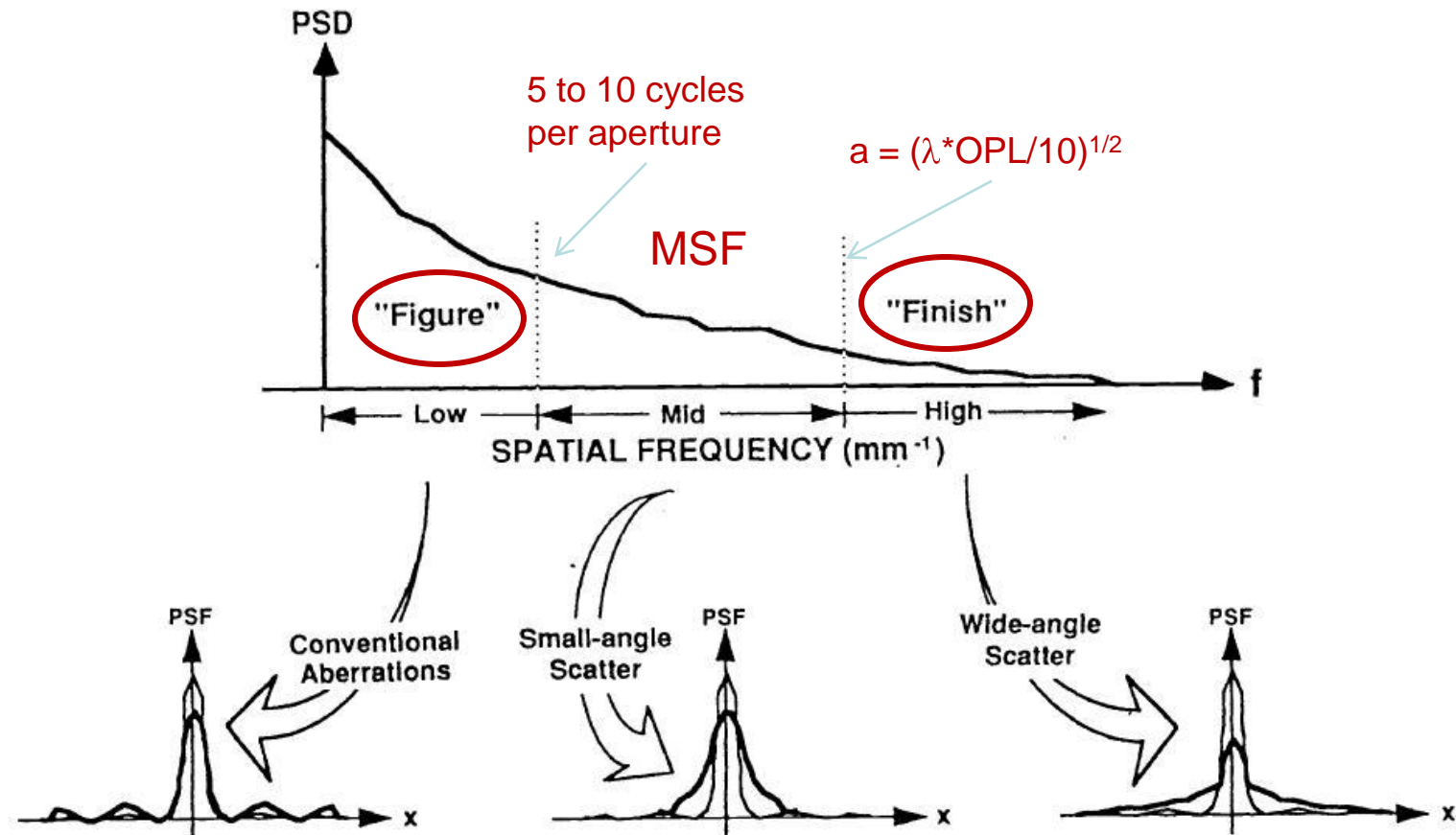
Finish (a.k.a “gloss” or “roughness”) is typically less critical as it results in total transmission loss



J.E. Harvey and A. Kotha, "Scattering effects from residual optical fabrication errors, Proc. SPIE 2576-25

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Mid-Spatial Frequency bandwidth limits help to define the MSF itself

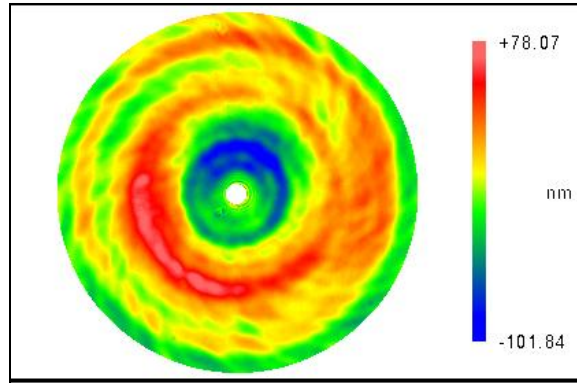


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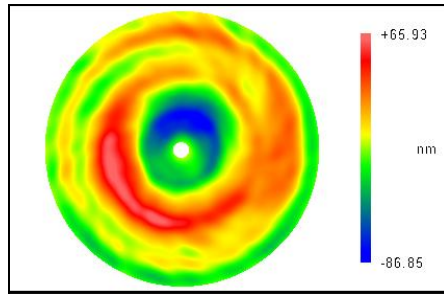
Example: Spoke and Spiral Errors

PV: 179.9nm
RMS: 28.6nm



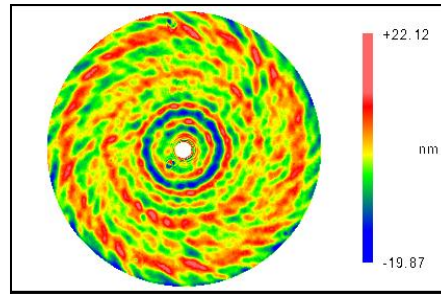
Unfiltered data

PV: 152.8nm
RMS: 26.3nm



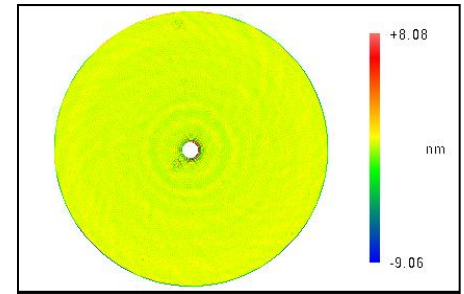
Low spatial
frequency

PV: 41.9nm
RMS: 4.8nm



Mid-spatial
frequency

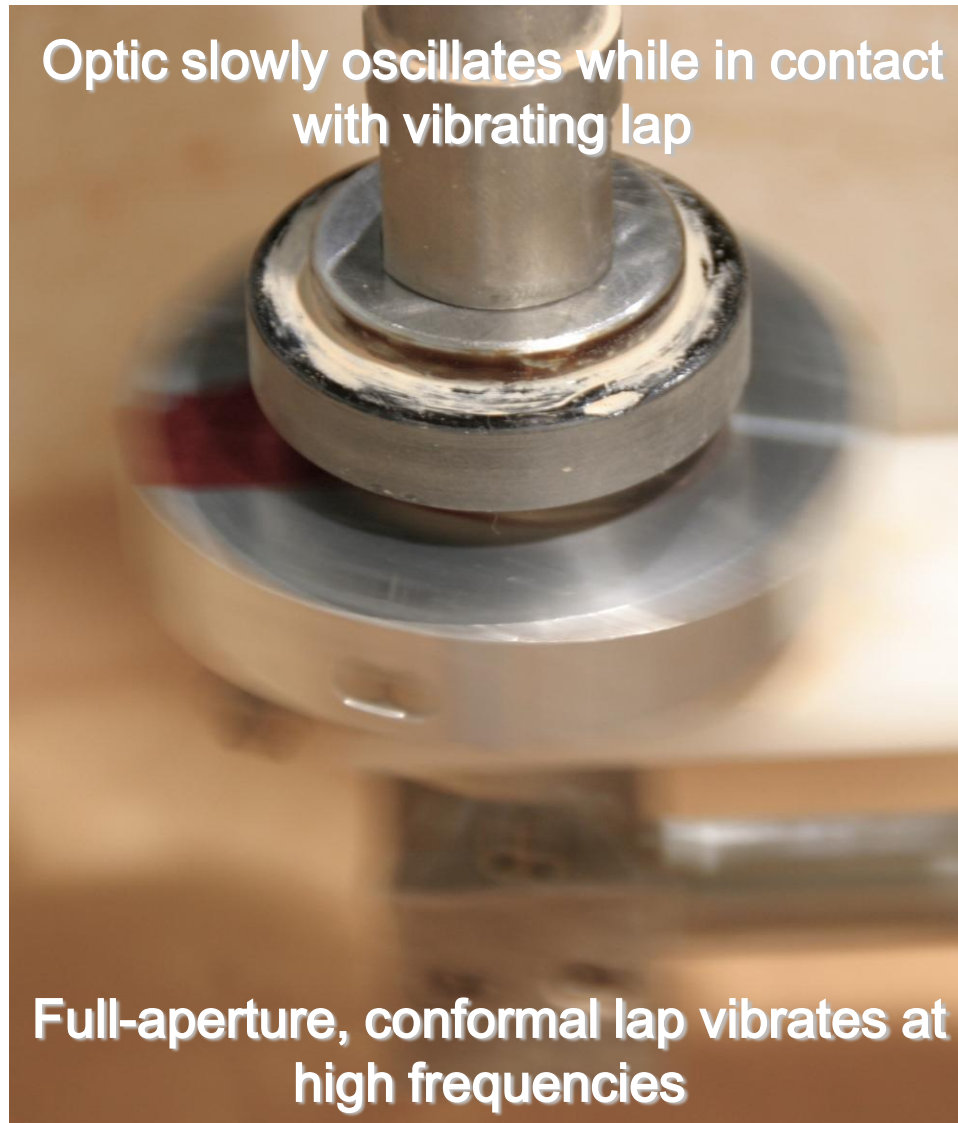
PV: 17.1nm
RMS: 0.6nm



High spatial
frequency

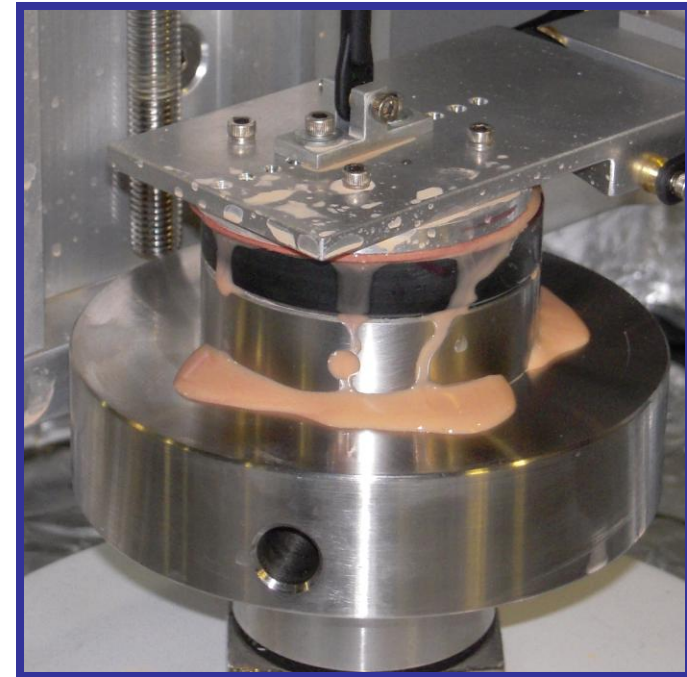
D. Aikens, J. E. DeGroote, and R. N. Youngworth,
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Wavefront Errors in Optical Systems," (Optical Society
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VIBE Process is a high-pressure, high-speed, full aperture polishing process

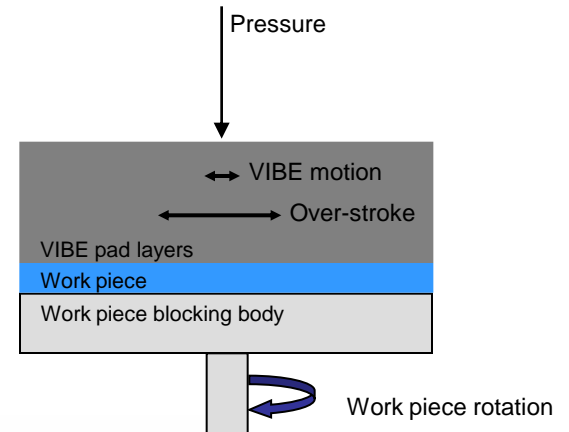


VIBE testing station provides platform for pad/slurry experimentation

- VIBE removal rate studies
- In-process testing of polishing pads
- Variable pressure and speed



VIBE linear motion with over-stroke



Vibe linear motion with over-stroke

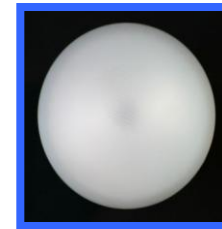
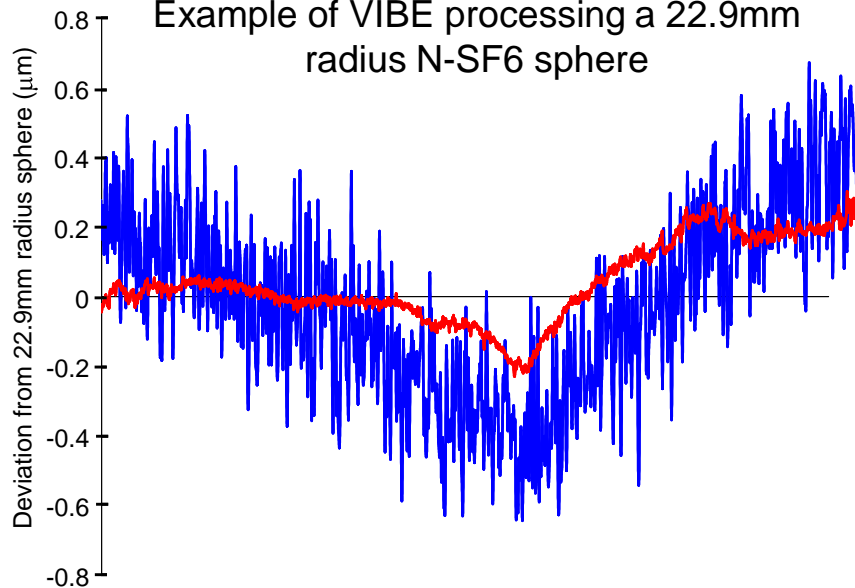


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Animation speed and motion has been exaggerated for viewing purposes

VIBE originally intended for pre-polishing glass spheres and aspheres

Example of VIBE processing a 22.9mm radius N-SF6 sphere

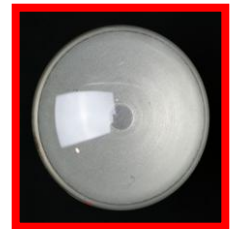


Initial 9T alumina ground surface

Areal surface roughness

P-V: 8517.6nm

RMS: 756.1nm



After 10 minutes of VIBE polishing

Areal surface roughness

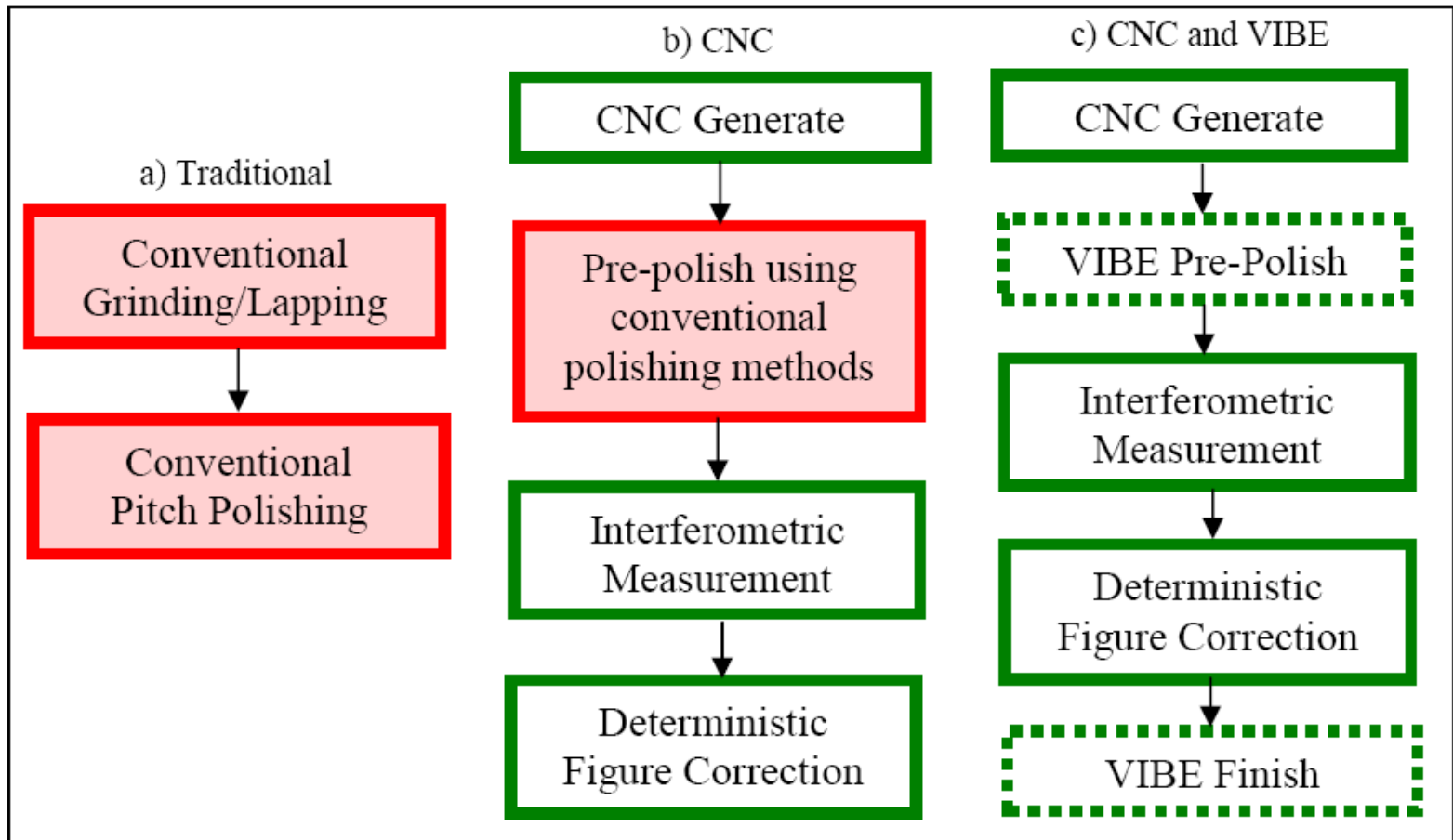
P-V: 12.3nm

RMS: 0.7nm

In just 10 minutes...

- Remove 10μm
- Improve surface figure
- Improve surface roughness by 100x

The role of VIBE in modern optical manufacturing processes



Outline

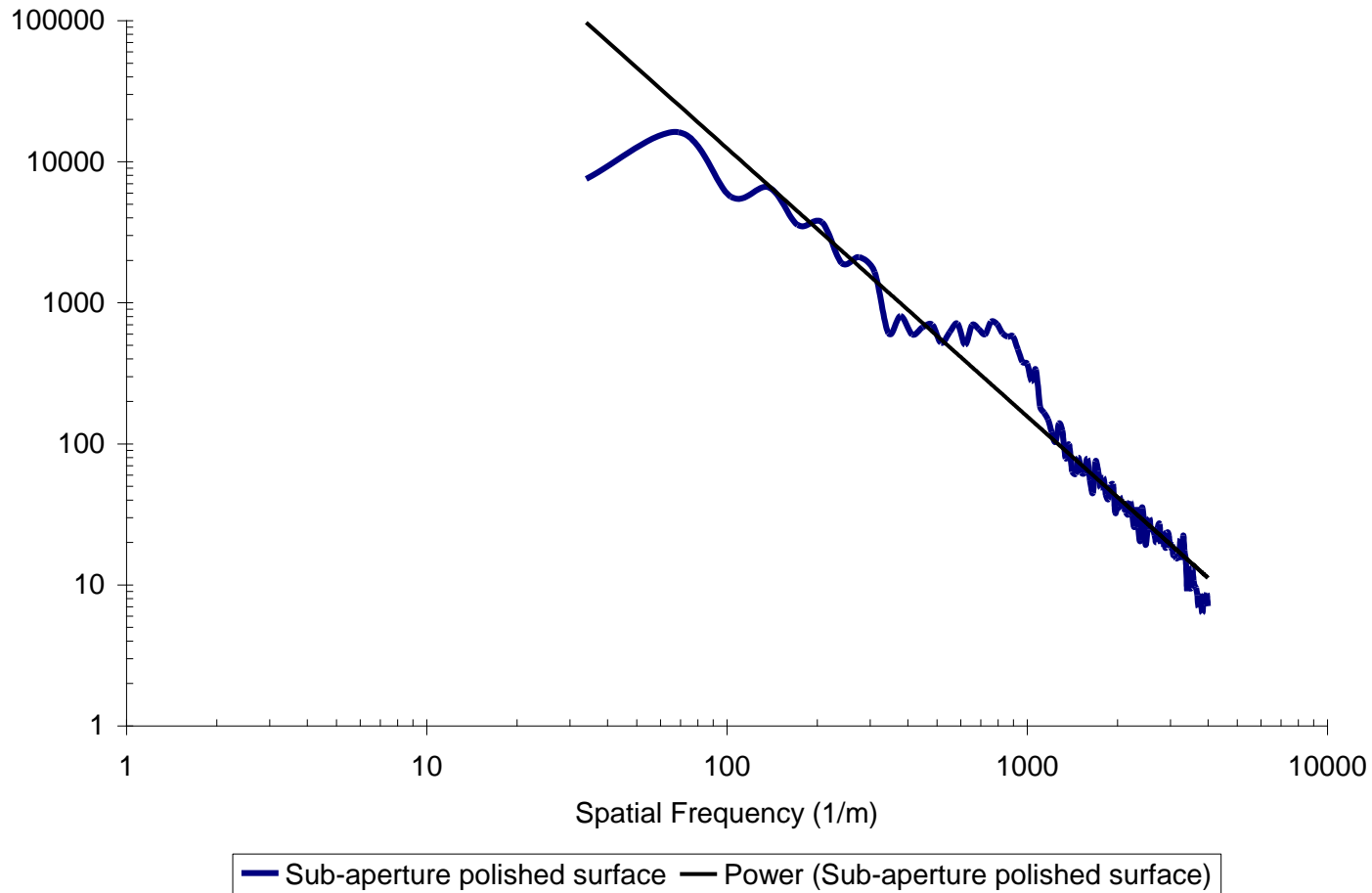
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Characterizing MSF Errors

- Implemented three different ways to visualize MSF errors
 - Power Spectral Density
 - Zernike Residual RMS
 - Slope Error

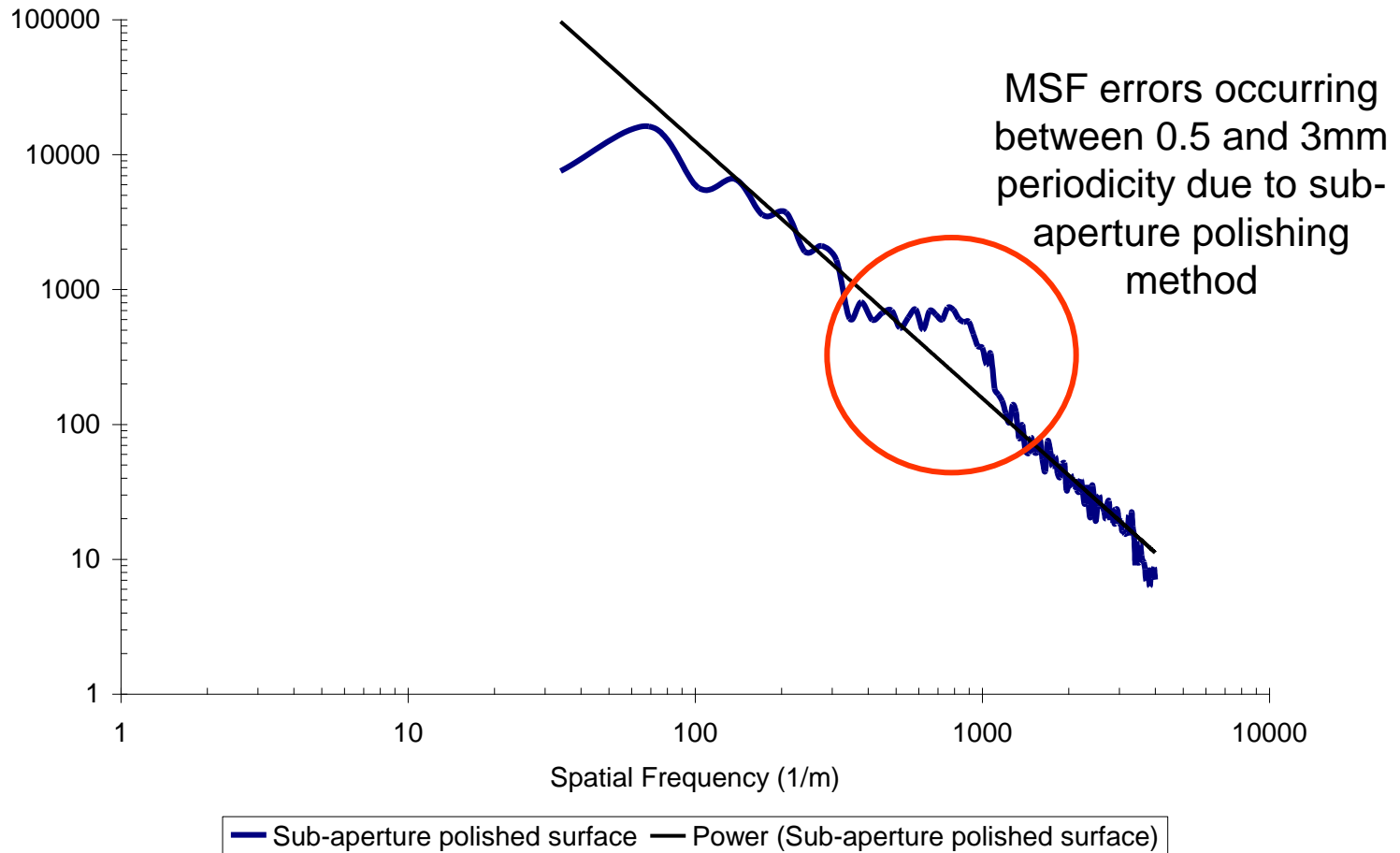
Power Spectral Density (PSD)

- Deviation from straight line



Power Spectral Density (PSD)

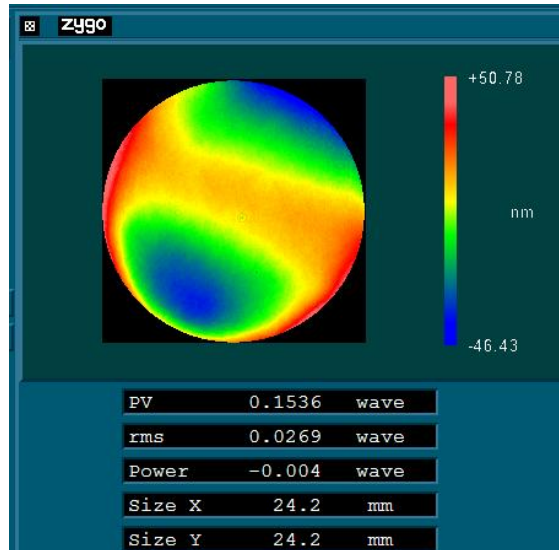
- Deviation from straight line



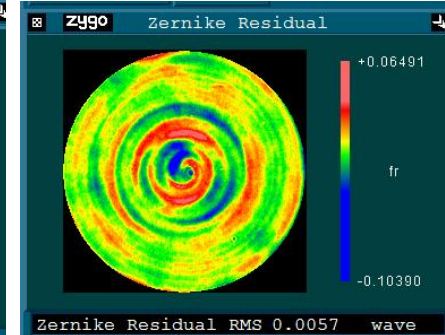
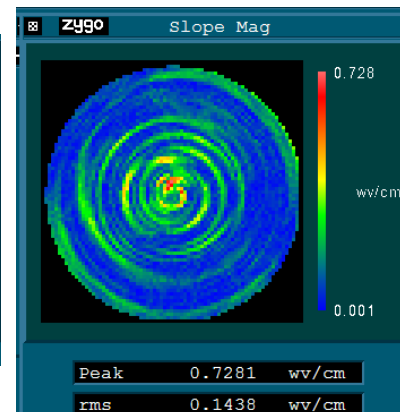
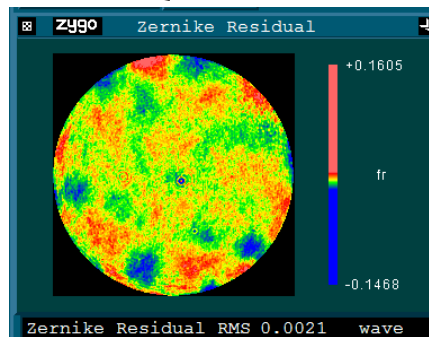
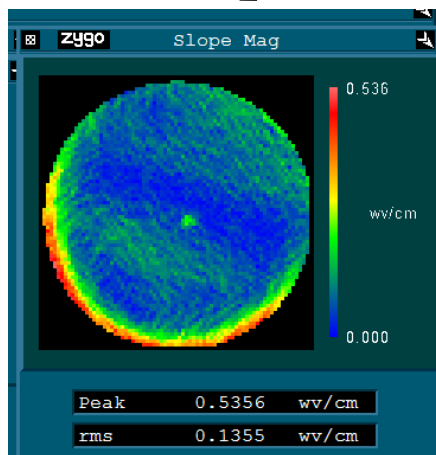
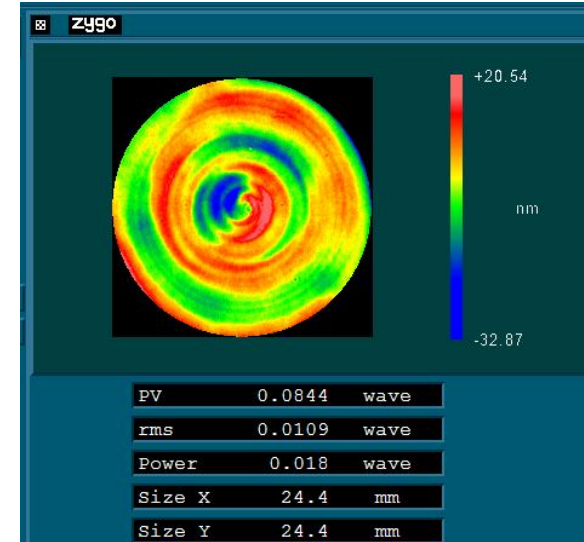
Residual RMS and Slope data

Implemented for initial inspection

Pitch Polished Surface



Sub-aperture Rotationally Polished Surface



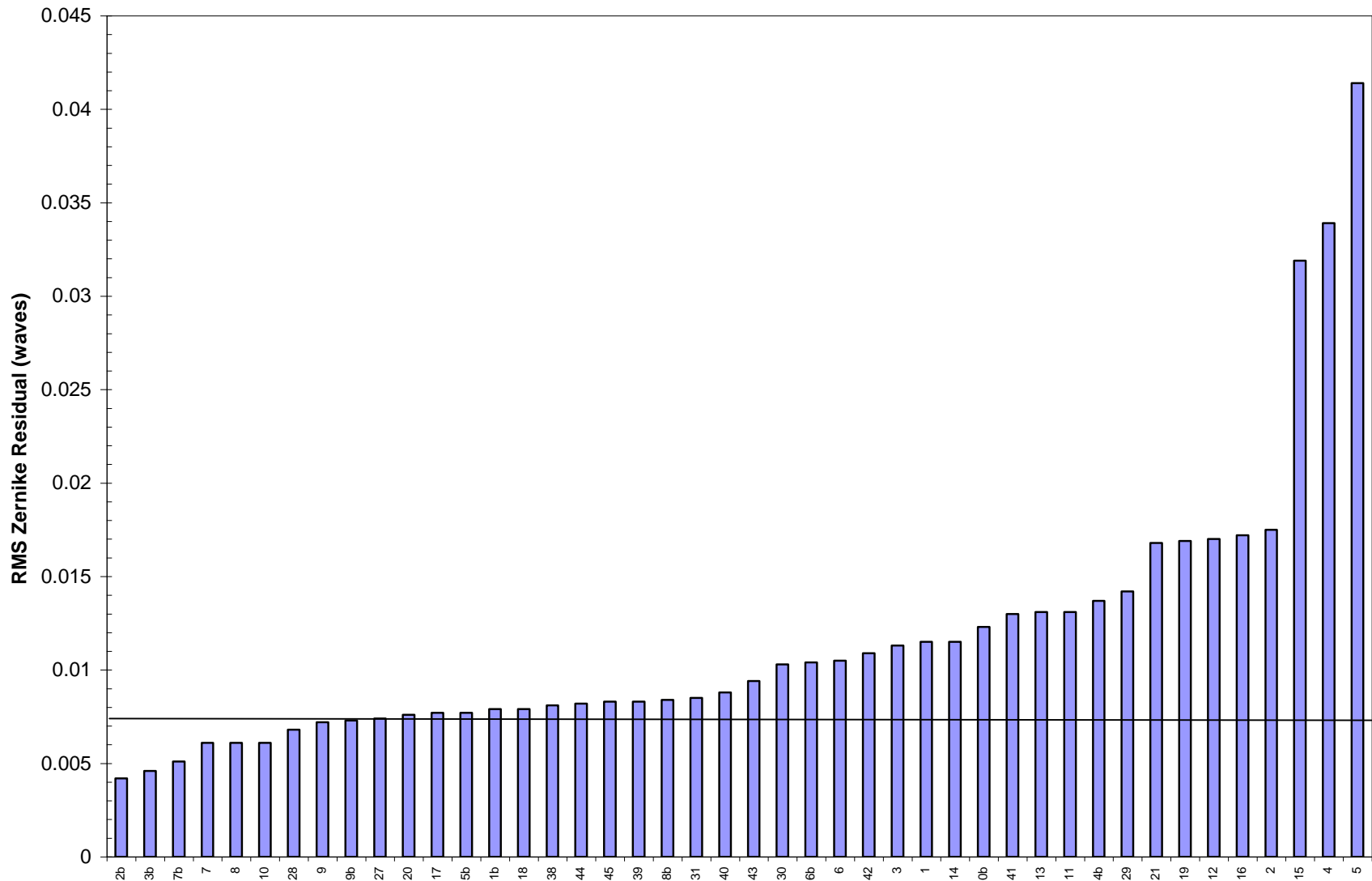
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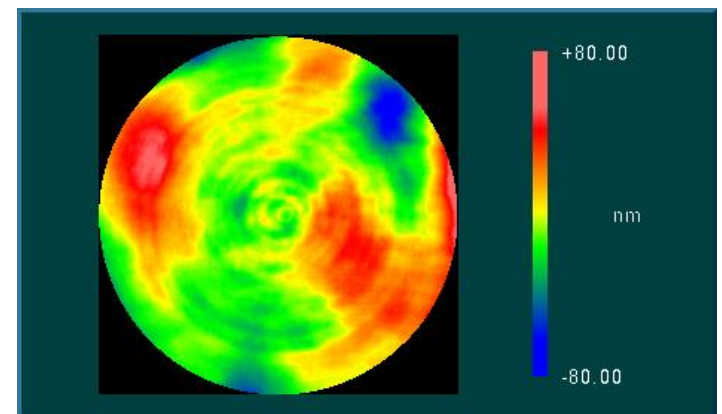
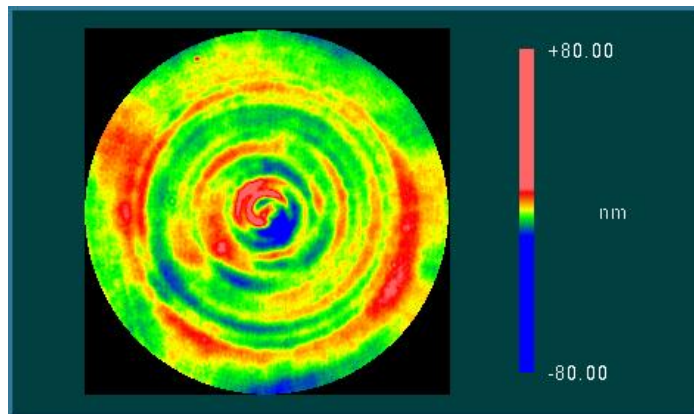
Implementing VIBE to remove MSF errors

- Currently 4 months into Phase I
- Examining different compliant mediums to determine optimum polishing pad composition
 - Material
 - Borosilicate glass
 - Initial surface – sub-aperture figure correction of plano surface
- Only remove nanometers of material
 - VIBE finishing step completed in less than 60 seconds

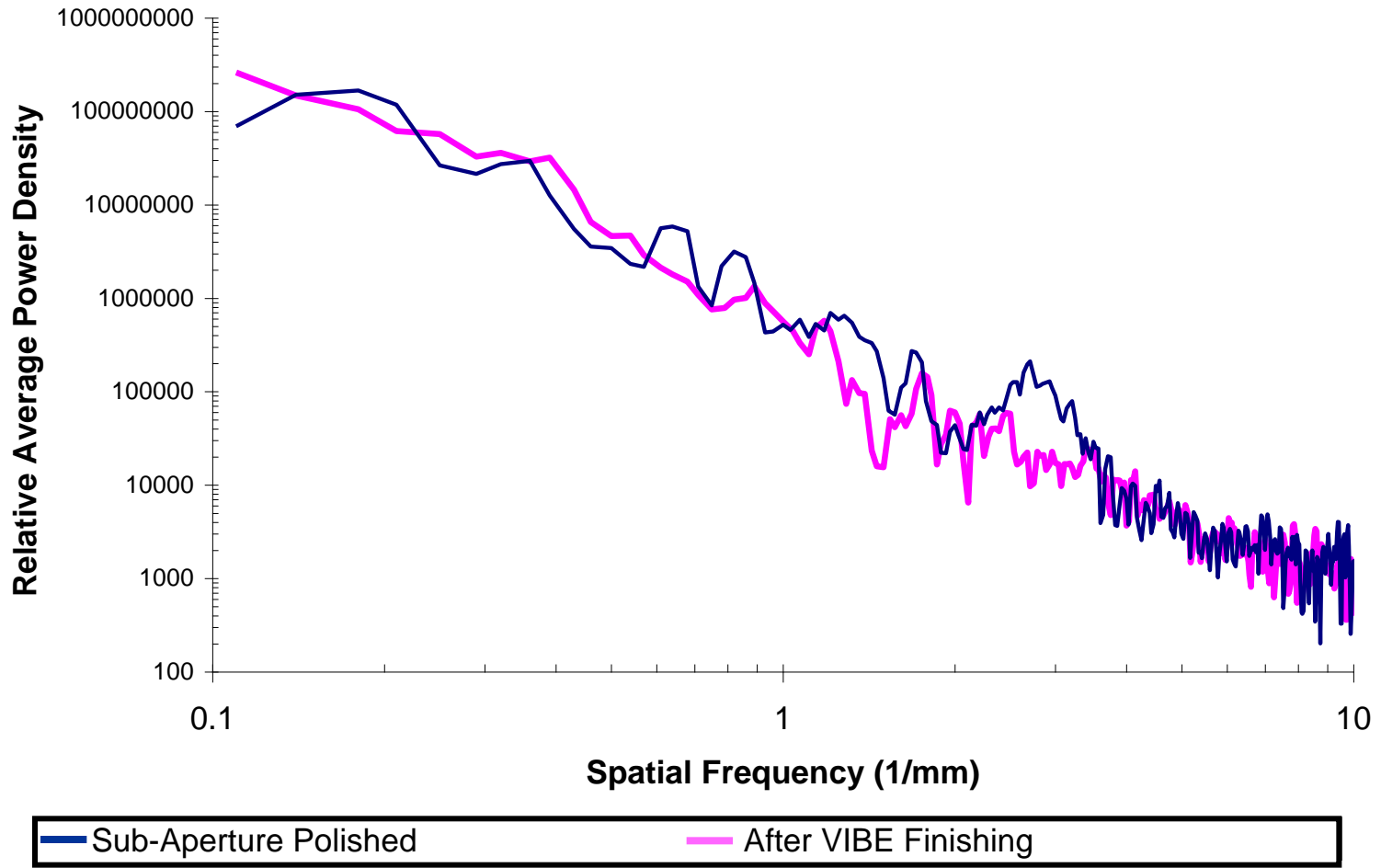
We have examined many different types of compliant polishing pads with mixed results



We have been able to reduce the appearance of MSF errors with VIBE



PSD data shows that VIBE finishing can reduce MSF errors



Conclusions and Future Work

- VIBE finishing can reduce the appearance of MSF errors on flat rotationally polished surfaces
- Continued work on eliminating MSF errors
- Future work: extend technology to spheres, cylinders, aspheres and conformal optics

Acknowledgements

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 - Ron Eng, COTR (NASA)
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 - John Lehan (Univ. of Maryland)
 - Peter Blake (NASA)
- NASA SBIR program for funding this work

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*Optimax Systems, Inc.
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INNOVATION

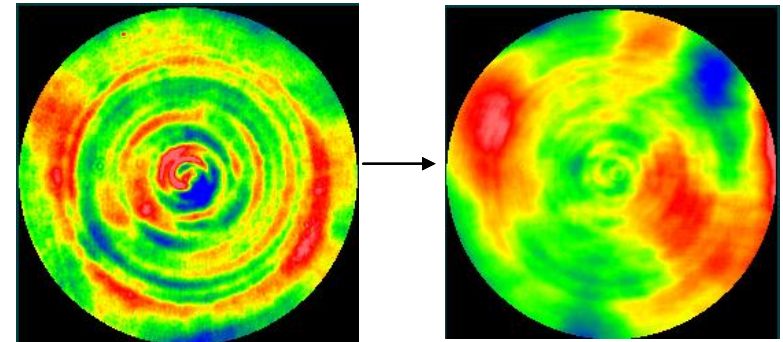
The Optimax VIBE process is a full-aperture, conformal polishing process incorporating high frequency and random motion to *eliminate mid-spatial frequency (MSF) errors* created by deterministic polishing in a VIBE finishing step while maintaining low spatial frequency form accuracy.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Currently in Phase I SBIR – Development Stage
- ◆ VIBE finishing has been shown to reduce the severity of MSF errors
- ◆ We have incorporated repeatable interferometric methods to characterize MSF errors

COMMERCIALIZATION

- ◆ Optimax VIBE™ Technology
- ◆ U.S Patent Number 6942554 B1
- ◆ Primary target applications: Optical imaging systems where small angle scatter would reduce performance quality
- ◆ Optimax currently provides high precision optics to the aerospace, defense, medical and imaging markets, VIBE technology will enhance our capabilities
- ◆ Current customers are designing all spherical optical systems due to Asphere manufacturing limitations (MSF errors)
- ◆ MSF errors are formed during deterministic sub-aperture polishing processes. MSF errors cause small angle scatter and flare in optical systems.
 - ◆ VIBE Finishing will eliminate these undesirable MSF errors



Initial Sub-Aperture
Polished Surface

Surface After 60-
second VIBE
Finishing

Sub-aperture polished surface before and after VIBE finishing

GOVERNMENT/SCIENCE APPLICATIONS

NASA:

- ◆ X-Ray Telescopes:
 - ◆ IXO – slumping mandrels, produce surfaces less than 1.4nm rms between 2-20mm spatial frequency range.
- ◆ Exo-Planet Imaging Systems:
 - ◆ Minimize scatter on primary and secondary mirrors, specifically less than 1nm rms in 4-50 cycles/aperture range

Non-NASA:

- ◆ High Energy Laser Systems, EUV Optics (Lithography), Imaging Systems and X-Ray Synchrotron Optics

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